



## **ESPN'S Chris Berman Returns to Defend Franklin Templeton Shootout Pro-Am Title**

**NAPLES, Fla. (October 27, 2005)** – Chris Berman, one of America's most respected and imitated broadcasters, will return to this year's Franklin Templeton Shootout to share his wit and enthusiasm and display his impressive golf skills.

Berman was a member of the low amateur team during last year's pro-am. Playing with Peter Jacobsen in round one and with tournament host Greg Norman in round two, the team shot 57-52—109 and won the title by one stroke.

"It's a thrill to be invited back to the Franklin Templeton Shootout. The fact that I am a member of the defending champion pro-am team is both an honor and a shock," says Berman. "The Gulf Coast of Florida has been my home away from home for many years now. I know the good people of Southwest Florida will be able to overcome the troubles brought on by Hurricane Wilma. I look forward to my visit in November not only for a few great days of golf but to assist Greg with raising funds and awareness for childhood cancer."

Berman joined ESPN in the fall of 1979, one month after the network's inception. During the last quarter century, he has come to embody ESPN in its dedication to entertaining and informing sports fans everywhere. He has been selected the National Sportscaster of the Year six times and has won seven Emmy Awards and 12 CableACEs.

"Chris has become a really good friend of the Franklin Templeton Shootout and we are grateful he will join us again this year," says tournament host Greg Norman. "To have someone join us who is so energetic and passionate about our charity efforts and the people of Southwest Florida is exciting."

Tickets are on sale now and orders can be placed three ways: by calling 888-66-SHARK, visiting Alf's Golf Shop in Naples or going to [www.Shark.com](http://www.Shark.com).

For \$100, patrons can enjoy A Taste of WCI. This incredible offer includes one Weekly Grounds Ticket and allows you to play 10 of the finest courses in South Florida for cart fee only. It also makes you eligible for valuable discounts on Greg Norman Collection merchandise, reduced rates at The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort, Naples, world-class instruction at the Rick Smith Golf Academy and frequent player rewards.

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## **2-2-2 Franklin Templeton Shootout**

A Weekly Pass, which includes five individual daily tickets for Wednesday-Sunday action, is available for \$60. You can purchase a daily grounds ticket in advance for \$15 Wednesday or Thursday and \$20 each for Friday through Sunday. A limited number of reserved seats on Tiburón's 18th green are available for \$50 per day. Reserved seats are available by calling 888-66-SHARK or visiting Shark.com. Children 12 and under will be admitted free with a ticketed adult.

For the fifth consecutive year, Southwest Florida golf fans and an international television audience will have the opportunity to watch some of the PGA TOUR's brightest stars battle it out for three days all while raising funds and awareness for CureSearch National Childhood Cancer Foundation.

Hank Kuehne and Jeff Sluman will be attempting to become the first team to win three consecutive Shootout titles.

This year's event will again feature an alternate-shot format during the first round, a better ball Saturday and a final-round scramble. USA Network will televise Friday's coverage and CBS will handle broadcasting duties over the weekend.

The Franklin Templeton Shootout was founded in 1989 as a result of Laura and Greg Norman's desire to raise money and awareness for children's charities and create a unique experience for PGA TOUR players

### **About Franklin Templeton Investments**

Franklin Templeton Investments is a global investment management organization offering investment choices under the Franklin, Templeton, Mutual Series, Bissett, Fiduciary Trust and Darby Overseas names. As of September 30, 2005, Franklin Templeton Investments managed over \$452 billion in assets, comprising mutual funds and other investment solutions for individuals, institutions, pension plans, trusts and partnerships.

### **About CureSearch NCCF**

The CureSearch National Childhood Cancer Foundation (NCCF) represents the Children's Oncology Group (COG), the world's largest and most prestigious childhood cancer research organization, comprised of a cooperative team of over 5,000 physicians, nurses, scientists and researchers dedicated to discovery and compassionate cures. There are more than 200 member institutions of the COG throughout North America where over 90 percent of all children with cancer are treated. The CureSearch NCCF and the COG are committed to conquering childhood cancer and share the vision to reach the day when every child with

cancer can be offered the chance for a cure. Visit - or call 800-458-6223 for more information.

### **About Tiburon Golf Club**

As Naples' premier residential and resort golf destination, Tiburon proudly features GOLF MAGAZINE'S 2005 Dream House in the community's Serafina neighborhood. Highlighted by its 36-holes of Greg Norman-designed championship golf, Tiburon's courses reflect Norman's appreciation for pristine natural settings and his passion for great golf. The Black and Gold courses contain a combination of stacked sod-wall bunkers and tricky coquina waste bunkers. Certified as an Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary by Audubon International, Tiburon reflects a strong commitment to enhancing and protecting the natural resources, a commitment also seen throughout WCI's 50+ communities located in Florida, the Northeast and the Mid-Atlantic United States. Offering a tradition of excellence since 1946, WCI is framing life's ultimate experiences by thoughtfully developing spectacular locations and landscapes into luxuriously appointed communities with unrivaled golf, boating, beach and club amenities.

### **About The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort, Naples**

The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort, Naples is the proud recipient of AAA's highest honor: The Five-Diamond Award, establishing it as one of the greatest resorts in the country. The resort also scored an impressive ranking as the #1 resort in Florida in *Conde Nast Traveler* magazine's annual reader's poll and #3 in Florida by the readers of *Travel + Leisure* magazine. In the November 2004 issue of *Golf Digest* magazine, The Ritz-Carlton Golf Resort was ranked as the No. #1 luxury golf resort in Florida and No. #25 in North America, beating out some of the long-standing top golf resorts in the country. The 295-room resort is Florida's finest luxury golf resort and is renowned for its incredible cuisine, outstanding service and luxurious rooms with panoramic views of the Greg Norman-designed golf course.

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